



Photo by Master Sgt. Dee Ann Poole

Bill Rudderham files patient records. Mr. Rudderham works in the pediatric clinic at the 509th Medical Group. The pediatric clinic is one of several areas the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations and the Air Force Inspection Agency's Health Services Inspection team will survey Monday through July 16.

Medical teams survey clinic

By Master Sgt. Dee Ann Poole
Public Affairs

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, in conjunction with the Air Force Inspection Agency's Health Services Inspection team, surveys the 509th Medical Group Monday through July 16.

The survey evaluates the group's compliance with nationally established standards for providing health care services, said Maj. Steve Stern, 509th MedGp project officer.

Accreditation with JCAHO, a civilian organization, is recognized nationwide as a symbol of quality that indicates an organization meets specific performance standards, addressing administrative leadership, nursing, medical care, and stringent safety and facility standards.

Agency inspectors from Kirtland Air Force Base, N. M., look at military-specific issues such as the preventive health assessments, family advocacy and other programs.

"The HSI inspection is so extensive that there are over four times as many of them than JCAHO inspectors," said Col. Richard Bachmann, 509th MedGp commander.

Nine HSI and two JCAHO inspectors look at every requirement, such as Notices to Airmen, Air Force Instructions and laws that apply to medical care in the United States, Colonel Bachmann said.

The HSI team assesses the ability of Air Force medical units to fulfill their peacetime and wartime missions, Major Stern said.

The joint commission's standards address the organization's level of performance in key functional areas, such as patient rights and patient safety.

Standards developed by the joint commission are developed in consultation with healthcare experts, providers, measurements experts, purchasers and consumers.

In order to ensure year-round compliance, JCAHO and HSI only give facilities a 30-day notice of the upcoming inspection. This time is used to gather past documents, but no documents generated after the notice date can be considered, said Bachmann.

To earn and maintain JCAHO/HSI accreditation, the 509th MedGp must undergo this on-site survey at least every three years. The last inspection was in December 2002.

News in Brief

Base schedules power outage

A power outage begins at 10 a.m. July 16 and will last for about 30 minutes. Areas affected are: Whiteman Elementary School, visitor's center, Spirit Gate, Woodview Housing area, the chapel, youth center, housing management office, child development center, Bldgs. 3200, 3203, 3205 and 3206, temporary lodging facilities, Whiteman Inn, Airman Leadership School, teen center and Mission's End.

Commander's call time set

Col. Chris Miller, 509th Bomb Wing commander, hosts a mandatory commander's call for civilians begins 10 a.m. July 19 at the base theater.

Top 3 hosts SrNCO ceremony

The Whiteman Senior NCO Induction ceremony for new master sergeants begins at 6 p.m. July 23 at Mission's End. The meal is London broil and costs \$15.95 for members and \$17.95 for non-members. The attire is semi-formal or mess dress.

Tickets are available from first sergeants. The last day to buy tickets is July 19.

FTAC changes July schedule

Due to the extended July 4th weekend and today's down day, the First-Term Airmen Center will conduct one class in July. The class takes place Monday-July 23. Normal bi-monthly classes resume Aug. 2.

Airmen should be registered for FTAC upon arrival on base. For more details, call Tech. Sgt. Dave Hodges at 687-6391.

AF announces captain promotees

The CY04 Quarterly Captain Selection Process selected four Whiteman lieutenants for promotion. Air Forcewide, 956 were selected for promotion to captain.

Whiteman's selectees are **Melissa Bailer**, 509th Security Forces Squadron, **Jonathan Deck**, 509th Operations Support Squadron, **Daniel Jones**, 509th Bomb Wing, and **George Henney**, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron.

The entire list is posted on the Web at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil>.

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Weather

Saturday
Mostly cloudy



H 93 °
L 71 °

Sunday
Partly cloudy



H 94 °
L 71 °

Air Force Housing — A Commitment To Our Airmen

By Gen. John Jumper

Air Force Chief of Staff

The foundation of our Air Force is our people. Caring for them and their families remains one of our highest priorities. One way we're making good on that commitment is by providing safe and affordable housing.

We're committed to providing our Airmen the quality of housing that is commensurate with the society they protect. Through privatization, increases in the basic allowance for housing, and a new dorm standard, we're combating the problems of inadequate housing. There is a myth out there the new ways of doing business mean we have abandoned our commitment to ensuring all Air Force members have access to adequate and affordable housing. Let me assure you that nothing is further from the truth.

Secretary Roche and I are committed to ensuring all Air Force members have access to safe, adequate and affordable housing either in the local community or on our installations. Providing housing options in the local community is our first target. Since 2000, we've reduced the average out-of-pocket expenses for members from 18.9 percent of the cost of housing to 3.5 percent today through annual increases in BAH.



We're on track to eliminate these out-of-pocket expenses by next year. These out-of-pocket expenses affect many of the nearly 60 percent of Air Force families who live off base. Through these increases to BAH, you will have a wider range of affordable housing options in your local community.

We're also aggressively targeting the problem of inadequate housing on base. At the beginning of this fiscal year, there were 40,000 inadequate military family housing units, but we plan to eliminate these through partnerships with private developers and military construction projects. Through a process we call "privatization," we partner with private developers who will build and maintain housing units for Air Force families. These partnership arrangements allow us to provide quality homes more quickly than we can through traditional military constructions. As of today, we've already built 4,934 new homes through privatization. By 2007, we will have eliminated all inadequate housing units in the CONUS, and two years later, we will have eliminated inadequate units overseas.

Secretary Roche and I view the increased use of privatization as key to meeting these goals so we're working with private developers when it makes sense to do so. In cases where privatization is neither feasible nor cost effective, we will use traditional military construction programs. We also tripled our investment in Air Force-owned housing and improved the size standards to ensure our on-base homes are comparable in size and quality to modern homes available in

the local community.

Although we may use developers to construct, maintain and operate military family housing, we have not outsourced our responsibility for the welfare of our Air Force families. We have been and always will be committed to providing the best available housing options for our members — but our methods for achieving this goal have changed.

These new methods provide greater flexibility to satisfy our housing needs. Increases in BAH provide our members greater flexibility to find housing off base. For on-base housing requirements, privatization provides us greater flexibility to build and renovate quality units, while ensuring the contractors are responsive to the needs of residents. Currently, we have privatized over 6,000 units, and have a high rate of resident satisfaction. Over the next three years, we plan to privatize a total of 45,000 units. In many cases, the privatized housing is on base property, or just outside the base, making it as convenient as traditional base housing. Privatization is one tool that enables us to provide quality housing to meet your needs.

We are equally committed to providing a quality living environment for our young unaccompanied Airmen. We currently have a shortage of nearly 2,400 rooms, but we are making great strides in filling that gap. From fiscal year 1996 through this year, we have spent \$1.3 billion in military construction money for new dormitories, and we plan to spend an additional \$735 million over the next five years. With this money,

we will eliminate our room deficit and develop an improved room standard called Dorms-4-Airmen. This improved design provides a larger living/sleeping area and a private bathroom in each room. In addition, the new design improves social interaction by connecting four living/sleeping areas to a large living room and kitchen. Each living room/kitchen area will also have a washer and dryer available to the four occupants.

We are also addressing dormitories for technical training. Currently we have a technical training dorm deficit of over 29 percent, with 40 percent of our existing technical training dorms having three students in rooms designed for two. However, this deficit will be eliminated by 2009, as we build new dorms each year for the next five years. We have already completed construction of eight new technical training dorms in the last five years and have three new dorms under construction today.

Even as we fight the war on terrorism, we have not lost focus on the importance of quality of life for our Airmen. Providing adequate housing allows Airmen to focus on the mission, knowing that their families have a safe place to live.

Ours is the greatest Air Force in the world because of the remarkable people we attract and retain. The old adage that "we recruit individuals, we retain families" has never been more true. I am extremely proud of the progress we have made in our housing program as we strive to make it worthy of the outstanding men and women who make our Air Force the world's best.

Medical readiness means keeping troops 'in the green'

By Maj. Jeffery Johnson

509th Medical Support Squadron Commander

Leaving nothing to chance.

Napoleon once said, "If I take so many precautions it is because it is my custom to leave nothing to chance."

When the 509th Bomb Wing team of warriors prepares to go to war — to support and defend the Constitution of the United States — we plan, plan and plan again. We simply leave nothing to chance — at least as little as possible.

Those plans range from the essentials (food, clothing, shelter) to flight and maintenance plans for our weapon systems. We also plan with consideration for the human weapon systems' needs and vulnerabilities, aside from the basics mentioned above. This is one facet of how the 509th Medical Group interfaces with the line-side of the U.S. Air Force. It's our responsibility to ensure that the most valuable weapons system and resources stand ready in the arsenal of freedom — anytime, anywhere.

How does the 509th MedGp facilitate maintenance of the human weapon system? There are many tools utilized to accomplish this critical task. A solid summation of this effort is found in the Preventive Health Assessment and Individual Medical Readiness report.

PIMR is the Air Forcewide database that tracks immunization, physical health assessment, dental, lab, profiles, and deployment data. In order for a unit to be PIMR green, at least 75 percent of its members need to be in compliance



Photo by Melissa Klinkner

Staff Sgt. Alex Arjona, 509th Medical Support Squadron, prepares to draw blood from Airman 1st Class Sharon Lerch, 509th Maintenance Squadron. The laboratory won the 2003 Laboratory Team of the Year, Category II award.

with the PIMR requirements. If a unit is 65-74 percent in compliance, it's considered to be PIMR yellow, meaning it isn't cleared because members have medical readiness items to take care of. A unit is in PIMR red if it's 64 percent or less in compliance with PIMR requirements. Individual Airmen in PIMR red can't deploy until they attend to outstand-

ing medical readiness items.

Ask any of your group or squadron commanders or superintendents, flight commanders, first sergeants, or NCOs in charge, and they will all say that a unit's readiness is ultimately the commander's responsibility. Every month each of the group and squadron commanders brief the 509th BW command element on unit readiness. It is vital that the unit commander be involved with the unit members' responsibility to maintain their individual medical readiness. PIMR is the unit commander's, and Unit Deployment Manager's single greatest tool for knowing and tracking in-garrison compliance of their Airmen regarding PIMR requirements.

The 509th MedGp, through its Public Health element, facilitate the BW command community, knowing the PIMR status of any one of the 3,680 Whiteman warriors ready to deploy.

Through PIMR, 266 active duty and civilian medical personnel track the staggering 80,960 medical requirements for the base active duty population, knowing at any given moment — if a deployment order comes down — which Airmen, officer or enlisted, will be able to deploy. For example, even if one's PIMR shows yellow, the individual may be able to deploy based on the details of the tasking.

How has the 509th been doing lately? The wing's current IMR rates remain steady at 82.5 percent, only 4.2 percent off of the AF's best! In the category of immunizations, the

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The deadline for article submissions to the Whiteman Spirit is noon Friday. If a holiday falls on Friday, the deadline then becomes 4 p.m. Thursday. Articles will be published on a space-available basis. Submission doesn't guarantee publication.

For more information, call the *Whiteman Spirit* office at 687-6133, fax us at 687-7948, e-mail: whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil or write to us at:

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Photo by Melissa Klinkner

Senior Airman Celeste Jackson is a member of the 509th Mission Support Squadron Formal Training Flight. The merger between manpower and personnel will require changes in Airman Jackson's career field to better suit Air Force needs.

Manpower, personnel merge

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — In an effort to streamline the Air Force's human resources programs, manpower, personnel, and education and training functions have begun to merge. The flights will realign under mission support squadrons at installations throughout the Air Force.

"Manpower and personnel have been separate disciplines throughout the Air Force's history," said Col. Douglas V. Bell, Air Education and Training Command's manpower and organization chief. "Merging them will provide cradle-to-grave processes for human resource management."

As part of the realignment, mission support squadrons will now be responsible for both manpower and personnel actions, Colonel Bell said.

"The merge should leverage personnel and create efficiencies giving the customer and commander a one-stop shop for human resource issues," Maj. Patricia Mauldin, 509th MSS commander, said.

The plan at Whiteman is to ultimately co-locate the manpower and personnel flights in Bldg. 509 however, no decision has been made and members of the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron are currently assessing the space to see if this is even possible.

The Air Forcewide merge is scheduled

to be completed by Oct. 1.

"The new organization will better align both military and civilian resources with manpower requirements for mission accomplishment," Colonel Bell said.

"The increased emphasis on force development demands a better linkage between manpower requirement determination and resource development and employment," according to the Program Action Directive signed by Gen. John P. Jumper, Air Force chief of staff.

Currently, people in separate Air Force specialties manage the three functions.

"Unfortunately, actions often happen within the separate stovepipes that hinder their overall efficiency," according to the directive.

The merger may involve a physical move to mission support squadron locations, but should otherwise be invisible to the customer, said Bill Friday, the deputy chief AETC's manpower and organization.

"There is a synergy we can achieve by combining the people who deal with 'spaces' and those that deal with the 'faces.' This will ultimately give the commander the right person needed to get the mission done; staying consistent with our expeditionary mindset," Major Mauldin said. **(Senior Airman Nick Martin, 509th Bomb Wing, contributed to this story)**

Whiteman welcomes new command chief

By Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp
Public Affairs

The 509th Bomb Wing welcomed its new command chief June 1.

Chief Master Sgt. Vicki Orcutt said she's excited to be a part the Air Force mission here.

"It's an absolute honor to be working with these professionals," Chief Orcutt said. "When I came to interview for the job, I got to see this base and the people who are a part of it. There is a spirit amongst the men and women of the Whiteman. There's a central focus and a professionalism (here) that gets and keeps you motivated. I haven't seen that in the last few bases I've been to. I've spent most of my time as a senior enlisted member at other bases trying to get my folks to the level that the 509th enlisted (members) are already at."

In her new position, Chief is responsible for the quality of life for more than 3,300 enlisted troops.

She's the principal adviser and assistant to the wing commander on enlisted issues. Her responsibilities include keeping the commander informed of matters affecting the health, morale and welfare of 509ers, and providing assistance, guidance and expertise to the four groups and 17 squadron commanders.

This is Chief Orcutt's second assignment as a command chief, but first at the wing level. She said one of her goals is to keep the enthusiasm and spirit of the enlisted force alive.

She said she'll do this by learning from the enlisted members here and see how their job is an integral part of the the B-2 mission. This will "be an opportunity for me to work with our maintainers and operators for the first time to show this Air Force what we do," the chief said. "This is going to be absolutely fun and exciting for me, because I get to work with an awesome group of people."

Chief Orcutt said she's here to take care of the people, ensure they're ready to



deploy, and plans to get out and meet everyone she can.

"My job is not behind my desk," the Miami, Fla., native said laughing. "I wish I could burn the desk and not have e-mail."

"I believe that I need to get out and talk to people. (My style of leadership) is hands on and inclusive. I have to be out meeting the folks who work here, so they're comfortable and know they can approach me," she said.

The chief, who said she has an open-door policy, lives on base and can be contacted through the command post at 687-3778 when she's off duty. However, if a person desires an appointment, she said, the best way to make one is to call her assistant, Staff Sgt. Randee Jo Dietrick, at 687-1397.

"If people can't make it to see me in person, they can always e-mail me and I'll respond to them," she said.

Chief Orcutt comes to Whiteman from Standard Systems Group at Maxwell Air Force Base, Gunter Annex, Ala. She entered the Air Force in March 1978 and became an information manager. Throughout the chief's 26-year career, she has had 13 assignments.

Chief Orcutt replaces Chief Master Sgt. Keith Cobb, who took an assignment to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz.

Expeditionary mindset provides stability, predictability for Airmen

By Tech. Sgt. Orville Desjarlais Jr.

Airman Magazine

SAN ANTONIO (AFPN) — Nothing much stands out at the Air and Space Expeditionary Force Center at Langley Air Force Base, Va.

The rooms upon rooms of cubicles are standard for a work center. A snack room provides lunch for those too busy to leave, and a larger parking lot would make people happier.

Everything appears normal, except for the inordinate amount of white boards. The boards are standard in meeting rooms, but in every other cubicle?

Ideas, as everyone knows, are fleeting. Here, ideas are jotted down quickly before they evaporate. One can actually read the writing on the wall. Nearly every white board has an expeditionary process spelled out with arrows, acronyms, sources, potential advantages and disadvantages, all just steps away from becoming future Air Force policy.

The cross flow of information, the multiple layers and complications of each AEF cycle and the 10- to 12-hour work days that seem to fly by are all part of the center's operation.

"Our mission is to take the Air Force's most valuable resource, its people, and provide lethal combat power," said Brig. Gen. Anthony F. Przybyslawski, the center's

commander. "We're not dealing with inanimate objects here like on a factory assembly line. We're dealing with people's lives and providing combat capable forces to the warfighter. When we (began supporting the war on terror), we went from deploying 8,000 people to 100,000 people in a couple months. It was truly amazing."

The operations in Iraq and Afghanistan put the Air Force into full afterburner, forcing a 1,250-percent increase in deployments. The conflicts also battle-tested the AEF concept of operations.

In the beginning, AEF goals were straightforward: Provide combatant commanders with the right force at the right time, reduce the deployment tempo and take full advantage of the Guard, Reserve and civil-service capabilities.

It is a work in progress, designed to be flexible. It will continue to react to mission requirements, service needs and the national military strategy while executing the Air Force battle rhythm to deliver versatile and responsive air and space power to meet the warfighter's global security requirements.

For every action the center is a part of, there is a reaction — be it caused by wars, manpower shortages or readiness issues. The center's charter is to keep everything on an even keel. Once its concept solidified, Airmen were organized into 10 AEF "pairs" that deployed, ideally, for three months on 15-month cycles. This system became a

way of life for most Airmen and allowed for unit training, adequate reconstitution, and personal as well as professional development while providing stability and predictability in Airmen's lives. On Sept. 11, 2001, that changed.

"It was like turning on a fire hose," said Master Sgt. Roger Heath of the center's operations division, who arrived there two weeks before the attack on the United States. And it was not just Sept. 11. Whenever he watched television news, he witnessed the fruits of his labor. "Haiti, Africa, the winter Olympics, homeland security, even the fires in California — whenever I'd see our people landing there, we did that."

In the past, General Przybyslawski said the cost of engagement was too high. Instead of sending a six-person team to repair a runway, a whole squadron was sent. It was like using a sledgehammer to kill a fly.

"The warfighter now asks for a specific capability, and we provide the weapon system," the general said. "An Army commander once said he was tired of using \$100 bills to pay bills without receiving change. He wanted a lot of \$5 bills. The Air Force, because we have more than 90,000 specific capabilities and skills, carries around 90,000 nickels to pay bills efficiently."

There are 220 people from 48 different Air Force spe-

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Whiteman welcomes new squadron commanders

Name: Lt. Col. Thomas Bussiere
Squadron: 325th Bomb Squadron
Date assumed command: June 17
Previous assignment: 509th Bomb Wing Chief of Safety
Time in service: 18 Years
Commissioning source: Air Force ROTC

Family: Wife, Barbara and children: Alexandra, Joseph, Christopher and Danielle.

Hobbies: Flying, woodworking, hunting, boating, camping.

Why is the squadron important to the Air Force mission: We provide the Air Force with B-2 combat-trained aviators, which are ready to respond 24/7 to destroy targets.

Command philosophy: Give your team the vector, the opportunity, training, and



the right equipment and they will succeed every time.

Goals for new position: Mentor our Airmen, foster leadership, and build upon the solid foundation already established to provide our nation combat airpower.

Name: Maj. Bryce Thorpe
Squadron: 509th Comptroller Squadron

Date assumed command: June 22

Previous assignment: 314th Comptroller Squadron Commander, Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark.

Time in service: 19 yrs, 8 months

Commissioning source: Officer Training School

Family: Wife, Renee, daughter, Rebekah and son, Will.

Hobbies: Golf, hiking, camping, any sports.

Why is the squadron important to the Air Force mission: We must make sure the mission does not fail because of resources. This includes decision support for leadership to get the most from every dollar and passionate advocacy to headquarters when funding is inadequate. On the customer service side, get the right pay to the right folks every time with no excuses. We owe it to them so they can focus on their mission. Freedom is not free.

Command philosophy: Mow lawn. I love to mow lawn because after every row,



you can turn around and see that you've made a difference. As resource warriors, we must be careful not to get so immersed in details that we fail to make a difference. Make a difference in your job - continuous improvement - make a difference in your family, and make a difference in your community.

Goals for new position: I am inheriting a great squadron with an outstanding track record. My goals never changes — in every area you touch, leave it better than you found it.

See the July 16 issue of the *Whiteman Spirit* for more change of commands.

Medical, *continued from Page 2*

wing holds firm at 98 percent, the best in ACC, and very near the top Air Forcewide. Kudos go both to the individual members, taking responsibility to get their immunizations when they're due, and to the Public Health technicians — all two of them — who have kept Whiteman's active duty population current on their 25,760 shots.

Just as keeping the B-2 ready to strike at a moment's notice is a team effort, so is keeping the PIMR rates at green or ready levels. It takes the commanders, UDMs, Airmen with readiness requirements, as well as each member of the 509th MedGp healthcare team, tracking those vital medical needs to optimize the readiness of Team Whiteman.

"So what," one may say. "Big deal, how's PIMR going to make any difference if I'm in combat?" Excellent question. Let me try to answer that.

Let's say there wasn't a PIMR report for the commanders or UDMs to refer to. Let's go even further and add that there was no medical group to facilitate the commanders as they prepared to deploy.

What could happen? If our forces were needed in Southeast Asia, perhaps Korea or Taiwan, there would be no way a commander would know if the unit is able to maintain medical healthiness in the combat envi-

ronment because there would be no PIMR or medical group. There would be no certainty if Airmen could withstand environmental challenges; the indigenous insects, diseases and other problems in the area.

Without PIMR or medics, the enemy could have an overwhelming impact — to the point of eliminating the unit's combat effectiveness.

If there were no medics in the field, both combat injuries and non-combat injuries would combine to hover as a catastrophic potential for commanders at all levels.

Simply put, no matter how well the battle was planned, a lack of medical readiness is a huge and dangerous burden.

The next time you're thinking about it, be thankful that the AF's system has a PIMR report. When your commander, or UDM mentions that the monthly PIMR report shows you need a PHA, a dental lab or an immunizations visit, remember it's in your best interest to 'green' that requirement up.

In closing, let me share what Sun Tzu wrote about readiness in 500 B.C.: "It is not a doctrine of war not to assume the enemy will not come, but rather to rely on one's readiness to meet him; not to presume that he will not attack, but rather to make one's self invincible."

The *Whiteman Spirit* wants to feature you.

Do you, or does someone you know, have a story idea you'd like to see in the paper?

Let our staff know about it.

For more information, call 687-6133 or e-mail whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil.

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Whiteman Spirit Award



Staff Sgt. Yaneth Alvarez

509th Medical Support Squadron

Staff Sgt. Yaneth Alvarez, 509th Medical Support Squadron unit deployment manager, received the Whiteman Spirit Award from Col. Matt Erichsen, 509th Bomb Wing vice commander, June 28. First Lt. Michell Long, 509th MDSS, nominated Sergeant Alvarez for the award for going above and beyond her primary duty. Sergeant Alvarez is the base moulage team chief and has contributed her skills to help local high schools with exercises.

"She did an exercise at Clinton High School, as well as one at Warrensburg High School in an effort to help cut down on drinking and driving during prom week," said Lieutenant Long. "She also spends a lot of weekends training the moulage team."

Sergeant Alvarez also went to Columbia, Mo. to prepare 200 people as victims in an Air National Guard regional exercise.

"The first responders that play in these exercises always say that her moulage is the most realistic they've ever seen," said Lieutenant Long.

Personally Speaking

Duty title: Unit Deployment Manager

Time on station: 1 year, 3 months

Time in service: 7 years, 1 month

Hometown: Belen de Umbria, Colombia, South Africa

Hobbies: Volleyball, salsa dancing, outdoor activities and extreme sports.

Goals: Attend physician assistant school, and earn majors in biology and criminal justice.

Best thing about Whiteman: Its people! Because people are always the most important thing.

Pet Peeves: Tardiness and dishonesty.

What motivates your winning spirit? Challenges, family, love, my faith and God.

If you could change one thing at Whiteman, what would it be? Its location. I would change it to the coast of San Francisco, just so I can learn to surf.

Submitting a Whiteman Spirit Award

Individuals are nominated from within their units or by customers impressed by the individual making Whiteman a better place to live and work by going far beyond his or her assigned duties to "make it happen."

If you know someone who has the Whiteman Spirit, send the nomination to the 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 509, Suite 111, or e-mail whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil.

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EOD flight prepared to blast into action



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mat Nisotis

Airmen 1st Class Brandon Pfannstiel and Sean McLaughlin, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Flight, participate in an EOD training exercise. A1C McLaughlin, wearing the EOD bomb suit, unravels the cable to the Real Time X-Ray (RTR-4) equipment, while A1C Pfannstiel, provides safety back-up and technical assistance. The RTR-4 is a portable x-ray machine used to inspect various packages and other items for concealed explosives. The EOD Flight's primary duties consist of supporting Whiteman AFB, the B-2 Bomber and weapons systems, and the local and surrounding states including Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa and Illinois in the event of any explosive incidents. The EOD team members train weekly to maintain proficiencies for real world events.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mat Nisotis

509th Civil Engineer Squadron members, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Flight, Tech. Sgt. Douglas Adams and Senior Airman Robert Brousseau discuss the plan of action during an EOD training exercise June 16th.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mat Nisotis

Airman 1st Class Justin Hunter adjusts the face shield of A1C Sean McLaughlin, wearing the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Bomb suit. Both are 509th Civil Engineer Squadron members, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Flight.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tia Schroeder

Explosive Ordnance Disposal specialist, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron, Airman 1st Class Sean McLaughlin performs an x-ray test using real time x-ray equipment on a simulated explosive during a training exercise on June 16th. The suit he's wearing is made of Kevlar with ballistic plate reinforcement and can protect the wearer from a blast of up to 10 pounds of trinitrotoluene (TNT) at close range.

1st Sergeant's View

(Editor's note: The 1st Sergeant's View gives Whiteman first sergeants a chance to remind people of correct uniform wear, customs and courtesies, and proper military decorum. Each week, a different first sergeant will share their view.)

By Tech Sgt. Paris Everson

509th Contracting Squadron Acting First Shirt

As first sergeants, not only do we need to mentor on what being an Airman means, but we also need to mentor on what being an American means.

What does the phrase, "I'm an American" mean? How do you pay tribute to your country and to the true Americans who made the ultimate sacrifice?

During a time when we reflect on our fallen comrades, we need to remember those who are still guarding the frontline at home and those serving overseas in harm's way. Being an American means many things to me, but one important thing comes to mind.

It was 1969, only a few days before my seventh birthday, and I was sitting on the riverfront in a small town, impatiently waiting to see the Independence Day parade. As I waited, I could hear two old men swapping war stories. I became particularly intrigued when they began to speak of someone I had never heard of.

They referred to her as old, but meant it in the most respectful way. They spoke of how she got them through the misery of death and destruction in World War II. They held her in high esteem in that she was an inspiration to all who served in the war.

I thought to myself; this must be a very special, important lady for both of these men to know her when they fought on different sides of the world; one in the Pacific and the other in Europe. She must be a

movie star, I thought. As I listened closely, one of them told his story. This is what he said:

I was in North Africa around the Fall of 1942 and just found I was assigned the most difficult job I had ever had; General Patton's personal driver. No one should be put through this, I thought to myself. I walked to the office and asked my sergeant, "Why me? Did I do something wrong?"

He said I was the most qualified for the job, but I wondered how I could be since I was only a private. The sergeant told me the General wanted the most mature and experienced driver. Since I was the oldest private in the Army, I was the choice. He said General Eisenhower made good remarks on my driving when he was here, and if I was good enough for General Eisenhower, I'd be good enough for General Patton.

A few days later, I picked up General Patton. He told me to head to the previous night's battle so he could assess its progress. While driving, we came upon several recently destroyed American tanks, with smoke still billowing from a few of them. Down the road, I saw something that turned my stomach. There she was, lying next to a damaged American tank.

I drove up to see if she was still intact. All I could see was that she had fallen and it was my duty to my country to help her up. I climbed up on the tank and propped her up so everyone in our convoy could see her in all her glory. As we drove away, I could see General Patton stand up and salute her along with everyone in the convoy as they drove by.

"That was the proudest day of my life as an American," the old man said.

He turned away so we couldn't see the tears of pride in his eyes. I could hear the sounds of the parade start to wander back into my mind. As I watched these two old



Photo by Melissa Klinkner

Members of the base Honor Guard drill outside Bldg. 132. The Honor Guard represents the patriotic professionalism of members of the U.S. armed forces. The U.S. Air Force Honor Guard visits Whiteman Monday through July 16, and will hold a mission recruit ceremony at 3 p.m. in Bldg. 132. To join the honor guard or for more details, call your first sergeant or Staff Sgt. Adrienne Mimms at 687-6532.

men who had fought so gallantly, I was amazed by their reaction when she came in full view, yet still a few city blocks away.

She was escorted by several retired soldiers who had long passed their prime with old uniforms showing the years gone by. She was waving to all. Several, including those two old men, gave her a proud salute as their tears came flowing down. I remember that day as if it were yesterday because the man who told his story was my dad.

To this day she still looks as beautiful to me as she did for them. She hasn't aged a bit and still waves to everyone when the wind gently sweeps across her. We see her everyday, from our local school classrooms to the newly erected WWII memorial in Washington, D.C.

We've also seen her at her most gracious moments; embracing the caskets of our fallen comrades and most recently, President Ronald Reagan as if to give one last fare-well hug. At Whiteman she stands

over us at the 509th Bomb Wing headquarters, watching to ensure we keep the true meaning of being an American alive.

Who is she? She's Old Glory, our American flag. So, the next time you look at her, give her a smile, a wink or a salute. Let her know what she stands for, because she deserves it.

We as Americans deserve it.

To me, being an American means to remember what those two old men felt in their hearts; the sacrifices they made along with the ultimate sacrifice of their fallen brothers in arms.

Today, we have fellow comrades fighting the War on Terrorism; from the men and women in our armed forces to the civilian contractors who are paying the price of freedom with their lives.

The pledge of this American is to never let their memory fade and never let the glory of our country fade. That's why, I'm an American.

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Photo by Melissa Klinkner

Civilian Employee of the Week

Glen Wiggins, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron, was nominated by Maj. Bruce Bartholomew. As the traffic management office outbound household goods consoler, Mr. Wiggins helps people transition smoothly to their next duty station by helping plan their moving arrangements. He has worked in the 509th LRS since 1998, and was enlisted in the Air Force for 26 years and retired as a senior master sergeant.

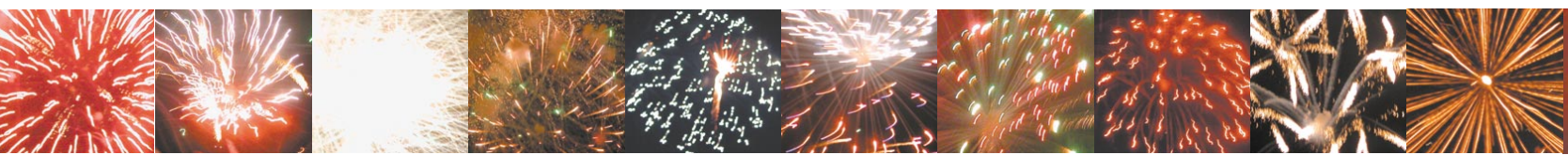
Submitting
CIVILIAN
EMPLOYEE
of the
WEEK

To nominate a civilian employee,
send an e-mail to
whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil.

*Be sure to include why this person
is being nominated.*

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Independence Day 2004



CELEBRATE FREEDOM



Katy Anderson, daughter of Tech. Sgt. Teddy Anderson, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron, and Hannah Allen, daughter of Tech. Sgt. Joseph Allen, 509th Maintenance Squadron, sing karaoke at the Fourth of July celebration on base.



Senior Airman Jami Manning, 509th Maintenance Operations Squadron, Staff Sgt. Jason Manning, 393rd Bomb Squadron, and their son, Brayden, use a paddle boat at the lake. Participants riding the paddle boats strapped on life vests for a five - 10 minute trip around the lake.



Airman 1st Class Anthony Defreitas, 509th Security Forces Squadron, takes a piece of cake. Twenty-two cakes and 2,000 ice cream cups, supplied by the 509th Services Squadron, were free for members attending the Fourth of July events at Skelton Park.

Photos by 2nd Lt. Mary Olsen



Aaron Bolton, son of Master Sgt. Gary Bolton, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, rides a mechanical bull. Other events for children included a water obstacle course and various games such as an egg and spoon toss and sand volleyball. People attending the events brought their own blankets, lawn chairs, food and snacks. The bowling center provided drinks for a small price.



Hannah Sanders, daughter of Master Sgt. Keith Sanders, 509th Maintenance Squadron, dances with Master Sgt. Daniel Andrews, 509th Bomb Wing. As the night went on, more people danced to tunes performed by the "Muddy River" band. In addition to live music, there was a DJ and karaoke at the pavilion.



A semi trailer truck ride gives people a chance to enjoy a nice breeze. Rides around the base lake and park were given throughout the day. Fireworks lit up the sky at night. More than 2,000 people attended Independence Day events at Skelton Park.

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Photo by Senior Airman Nick Martin

Hangin' around

David Hall and Ty'Shana Forrest play on the jungle gym outside the youth center. The youth center offers several programs for children in kindergarten through grade 7. For more details about the youth center, call 687-5586. David's parents are Tech. Sgt. David and Danielle Hall, 509th Security Forces Squadron. Ty'Shana's mother is Staff Sgt. Denise Forrest, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron.

Mindset, *continued from Page 3*

cialties in the center who provide combat commanders the aircraft and manpower needed to complete a mission. Capt. Jennifer Allen — who recently returned from a stint at a deployed location — is typical of a center staff member. A majority of them are battle-tested.

"It's hard for a personnel officer to get selected to go to a war zone," the captain said. "I wanted to get a wartime tasking. Since I was never (against a tasking), I signed up for a remote short tour. Some people think that we in the AEF Center don't know what's going on, but we do."

General Przybyslawski instills the human aspect in the center.

"These are real people we're talking about, not line numbers. We need to take care of people," he said.

That personal care can be extended to the 20,000 people deployed on any given AEF rotation, or even focused on a single person — that is, if that person is being extended. By his own rule, the general must review every extension.

"I found religion when General John Jumper (Air Force chief of staff) asked me who authorized extensions — who ultimately made the decision. I said (functional area managers) do. Ever since, I review every extension out there and investigate every action possible so we minimize extensions."

But he doesn't like to extend people, especially if they're in a remote location.

"Extensions are like rocks in our shoes; it's not a perfect world. If we have to extend people, we try to tell them before they deploy. Extensions are our last option," he said. "We take extensions seriously, so much so that the chief of staff will approve all extensions when the new Air Force Instruction on AEF presence pol-

icy is soon released."

To prevent extensions and allow greater continuity for expeditionary commanders in the field, while still providing stability and predictability, General Jumper announced a change in deployment lengths.

Beginning with AEF Cycle 5 in September, AEF deployment lengths will be four months on 20-month rotational cycles.

"This evolution of the AEF is not a temporary adjustment," General Jumper wrote in his Sight Picture on June 4. "More appropriately, it is recognition of new demands around the world for air and space power.

"Simply put, the demands on our deployable forces have not diminished and are not expected to decline for some time," the general wrote.

The 20-month cycle will continue to provide commanders and Airmen the ability to plan ahead, allowing predictability while providing greater continuity for the in-theater commander.

As part of that predictability, and before Airmen are notified of a deployment, General Przybyslawski said people should put themselves in an AEF mindset and be ready to deploy anywhere in the world when requested.

General Jumper agrees.

"The culture of the ... air and space expeditionary force is ... everyone in the Air Force must understand that the day-to-day operation of the Air Force is absolutely set to the rhythm of the deploying AEF force packages," General Jumper said.

"We need people to get upset when they don't go," General Przybyslawski said. "The proper mindset is you're either training to go, going or already gone. You're 'sitting alert' until called."



Photo by Melissa Klinkner

Checkin' the chompers

Airman 1st Class Yasir Ali, 509th Medical Operations Squadron, performs a dental checkup on Senior Airman Karrie Ruehl, 509th Security Forces Squadron. Members of the 509th MedGp help Whiteman members remain deployable by ensuring their health and wellness.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health-care Organizations will conduct an accreditation survey of

509th Medical Group on 12 July — 16 July 2004

The purpose of the survey will be to evaluate the organization's compliance with nationally established Joint Commission standards. The survey results will be used to determine whether, and the conditions under which, accreditation should be awarded the organization.

Joint Commission standards deal with organization quality and safety-of-care issues and the safety of the environment in which care is provided. Anyone believing that he or she has pertinent and valid information about such matters may request a public information interview with the Joint Commission's field representatives at the time of the survey. Information presented at the interview must be made in writing and should be sent to the Joint Commission no later than five working days before the survey begins. The request must also indicate the nature of the information to be provided at the interview. Such requests should be addressed to

**Division of Accreditation Operations
Office of Quality Monitoring
Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health-care Organizations
One Renaissance Boulevard
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181**

**Or
Faxed to 630/792-5636**

**Or
E-mailed to complaint@jcaho.org**

The Joint Commission's Office of Quality Monitoring will acknowledge in writing or by telephone requests received 10 days before the survey begins. An Account Representative will contact the individual requesting the public information interview prior to the survey, indicating the location, date, and time of the interview and the name of the surveyor who will conduct the interview.

This notice is posted in accordance with the Joint Commission's requirements and may not be removed before the survey is complete.

Date Posted: 25 June 2004

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What’s happening

Education

AFROTC offers scholarships

The Scholarships for Outstanding Airman to ROTC program offers active duty enlisted members an opportunity to earn a commission while completing their bachelor’s degree as an Air Force ROTC cadet. SOAR is open to students in any major and provides a scholarship up to \$15,000 per year, an annual textbook allowance of \$510 and a monthly nontaxable stipend of \$200-\$400. Air Combat Command’s quota is 16 for fiscal 2005.

Waivers must be submitted to Headquarters Air Force ROTC by Aug. 15, with completed packages reaching ACC by Oct. 15. For more details, eligibility requirements and application procedures, visit ROTC Web site at <http://www.afoats.af.mil/AFROTC/EnlistedCommissioning> or call Larry Broudrick, base education and training services office, at 687-2420.

Community

Local AFSA meeting set

Chapter 881 of the Air Force Sergeants Association meets at 4 p.m. Tuesday at Mission’s End. AFSA members discuss issues vital to Air Force active duty, reserve, guard and retired enlisted members.

The International AFSA convention takes place Aug. 21-25 in Columbus, Ohio. For more details on AFSA, call

Staff Sgt. Stacy Waller at 687-4100. Information is also available at <http://www.afsahq.org>.

USAF Honor Guard visits Whiteman

The U.S. Air Force Honor Guard will visit Whiteman from Monday until July 16. They’ll hold a mission recruit ceremony at 3 p.m. Thursday in Bldg. 132, 509th Services Squadron Annex. To join the honor guard, or for more details, call your first sergeant or Staff Sgt. Adrienne Mimms at 687-6532.

Top 3 meets Thursday

The Whiteman Top 3 meets at 3 p.m. Thursday at Mission’s End. Plans are under way for the 11th Annual Enlisted Luau, which takes place Aug. 27 at Skelton Park. Volunteers are still needed for the various committees.

An enlisted luau working lunch begins at 11 a.m. Thursday at Mission’s End. For more details on the luau, call Master Sgt. Keith Keen at 687-3087.

Toastmmaster meeting set

The Toastmasters, an organization to improve public speaking, is holding a meeting 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Warrensburg Community Center. For more details, call Staff Sgt. Kenneethia Kennard at 678-5737.

393rd holds fund raiser

The 393rd Bomb Squadron is selling lithographs. Each limited-series individually-numbered litho is signed by the

artist and squadron commanders and is \$80.

The lithos are of a painting of six B-2s over Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Proceeds go to the 393rd BS. For more details, call Capt. Ian Manire at 687-5132, or e-mail ianr.manire@whiteman.af.mil.

442nd Hogfest scheduled

A rummage sale will be held 7:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m. July 9 at the Mission’s End parking lot. Proceeds will go toward the “hogfest” awards banquet, which recognizes 442nd Maintenance Group members for outstanding performance.

Family Support

Call 687-7132 for details on these events or other family support center activities. Events take place at the FSC.

Pre-separation briefing set

A pre-separation briefing for people separating from the military begins at 9 a.m. Monday. Representatives from the military personnel flight, family support center, reserves and finance will provide information. The MPF separations and retirements office schedules members for this briefing. For more details, call 687-1500 or 687-6720.

FSC offers financial refresher

A financial briefing for senior airmen and below not attending the First-Term Airmen Center begins at 1 p.m. Tuesday. Reservations are required.

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EVERYONE IS INVITED to

THE **2nd annual**
AIRMEN'S SUMMER BASH!!!

5p.m. - Midnight July 16
*** FREE FOOD**
*** FREE BEVERAGES**
*** AND Live Entertainment**

In the Dorm Common Area

Special Guest
DJ KIRBY
MIX 93.3

Prizes and giveaways!!!
Don't miss out!!!



**Airmen
 Against
 Drunk
 Driving**

For a ride call
687-RIDE
 or toll-free
877-518-6802

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Photo by Melissa Klinkner

Ramp camp

Instructors Zach Koss and Jesse Reed, Skatewave contractors of California, look on as they coach

Joey Carlson, Matt Nall and Isaac Grella how to skate the small ramp at the the base skate park. The skateboard camp is run by the youth center and is funded by Air Combat Command. ACC allocates special funds in support of youth of deployed and duty separated Air Force Members to increase opportunities in recreational or educational experiences. For more details about youth programs being offered, call 687-5588. Joey is the son of Tech. Sgt. Christopher Edsall, 72nd Test and Evaluation Squadron. Matt's parents are Master Sgt. Dannette and Tex Nall, 509th Comptroller Squadron, and Isaac's parents are Tech. Sgt. Roy and Patty Grella, 509th Civil Engineer.

VARSETY
S
O
C
C
E
R
TRYOUTS

5pm Today
9-11am &
3-4pm Sat.
9am Sun.

Skelton Park
Soccer Feild

For more details,
call
Staff Sgt. Joe Amegatcher
687-1009

The 509th Civil Engineer Squadron Softball Team
Challenges you to the —

**WHITEMAN
SUMMER
SOFTBALL
SLAM**

Everyone is welcome!!!

When: July 24
Coaches meet: Noon Thursday
at 509th CE Readiness Bldg 705
For more details or if you want to play
and cant make the meeting, contact
Staff Sgt. David Ball at 687- 4228 or e-mail
david.ball@whiteman.af.mil

Pitching contest
Outfielder contest
Homerun Derby

\$50 team entry fee due July 21



Courtesy photo

Don't try this at home

Second Lt. David Hunter, Detachment 12 Air Combat Command, performs a delayed vertical suplex on his wrestling opponent. Lieutenant Hunter, aka "Mason," has professionally wrestled for almost six years in 10 different states. He first became intersted in the sport after meeting a former wrestler while still in middle school. After wrestling three years in college, Lieutenant Hunter trianed to become a professional. He trains one night a week in Eldon, Mo., and performs about five shows per month.

Attention Sports Fans

- Do you read the sports page?

- Do you own a digital camera?

- Do you, or does someone you know play a sport you'd like to see in the base paper?

You can submit photos to the Whiteman Spirit.
For more details, call 687-6133
or E-mail whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil